

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY  
**PCT**  
 INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

01 NOV 2004

PCT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference p182d/pct	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No. <b>PCT/AU2003/000847</b>	International Filing Date (day/month/year) <b>1 July 2003</b>	Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>1 July 2002</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>Int. Cl. 7 G07G 1/14, 1/12, 5/00, G06F 3/12</b>		
Applicant <b>S4 TECHNOLOGY PTY LIMITED et al</b>		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
  2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I  Basis of the report
- II  Priority
- III  Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV  Lack of unity of invention
- V  Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI  Certain documents cited
- VII  Certain defects in the international application
- VIII  Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand <b>12 January 2004</b>	Date of completion of the report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU <b>AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929</b>	Authorized Officer  <b>MATTHEW HOLLINGWORTH</b> Telephone No. (02) 6283 2024

**I. Basis of the report****1. With regard to the elements of the international application:\***

- the international application as originally filed.
- the description, pages , as originally filed,  
pages , filed with the demand,  
pages , received on with the letter of
- the claims, pages , as originally filed,  
pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,  
pages , filed with the demand,  
pages , received on with the letter of
- the drawings, pages , as originally filed,  
pages , filed with the demand,  
pages , received on with the letter of
- the sequence listing part of the description:  
pages , as originally filed  
pages , filed with the demand  
pages , received on with the letter of

**2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item:**

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

**3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:**

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

**4.  The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:**

- the description, pages
- the claims, Nos.
- the drawings, sheets/fig.

**5.  This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\***

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\* Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 7-20, 32-33, 37-39, 45-57, 59	YES
	Claims 1-6, 21-31, 34-36, 40-44, 58	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-59	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-59	YES
	Claims	NO

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**

- D1: US 5,712,629 A (CURTISS, JR. et al), 27 January 1998
- D2: WO 2002/043014 A2 (@POS.COM, INC.), 30 May 2002

**NOVELTY (N) claims 1-6, 21-31, 34-36, 40-44, 58**

Claims 1-6, 21, 23-25, 31, 34-35, 42-43 and 58: Each of documents D1 and D2 discloses all the features of these claims.

Claims 22, 26-30, 36, 40-41 and 44: These claims are anticipated by D2.

See also the indication contained in Box VI, "Certain documents cited."

**INVENTIVE STEP (IS) claims 1-59**

Claims 1-6, 21-31, 34-36, 40-44 and 58: As above.

Claims 7-20, 32-33, 37-39, 45-57 and 59: These claims are not seen to involve an inventive step in light of D2. They relate to features which are either disclosed in the citation, well-known in the art, or which would otherwise be obvious to a person skilled in the art. In particular, the application of the cited system to add promotional materials to receipts, as in claims 46-54, is considered to be an obvious application of the cited invention (see page 6, lines 27 for a suggestion of this application).

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2003/000847

**VI. Certain documents cited****1. Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)**

Application No. Patent No.	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date ( valid claim) (day/month/year)
X, P US 6,415,341 B1	2/7/2002	29/1/1999	29/1/1999

This document discloses all the features of independent claims 1, 23-25, 34-35 and 42-43, at least.

**2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 70.9)**

Kind of non-written disclosure	Date of non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	Date of written disclosure referring to non-written disclosure (day/month/year)

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

**VIII. Certain observations on the international application**

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

In claims 1, 23, 35 and 40, there are no antecedents to "said central processing station," making these claims unclear. (Although the claims define a "first data processing station," it is not clear whether this is the feature being referenced.)

Similarly, claim 34 refers to "said data stream," claims 47-54 to "the remote output device," and claim 19 to "output data," without previously defining these features.

Claim 46 is unclear.

Claim 31 is somewhat ambiguous, since it claims an "alternative embodiment," without specifying that this embodiment takes the features of foregoing claims.

In claims 46 and 56, the scope of the term "a potentially unlimited number of promotional features" is unclear.